CLAIMS:

1.          An apparatus (101) for content selection, comprising

a receiver (103) for receiving content items from a plurality of sources (105, 107, 109, 111) including real-time content sources and content item storage sources;

a presentation processor (113)for presenting a content set indication of available content items from said plurality of sources (105, 107, 109, 111) wherein said content set indication comprises a parameter indicating an earliest time of availability of each content item; and

a selection processor (119) for selecting a content item from said content set indication of available content.

2.          An apparatus as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a presentation controller (121) for presenting the selected content item to a user.

3.          An apparatus as claimed in claim 2, wherein the presentation controller (119) is operable to present a selected content item having a previous earliest time of availability from a beginning of the selected content item.

4.          An apparatus as claimed in claim 3, comprising a content item storage (111) for storing content items from the real-time content sources, and wherein the selected content item is from a first of the plurality of real-time content sources and the presentation controller (121) is operable to present the selected content item having a previous earliest time of availability from a beginning of the selected content item by retrieving the selected content item from the content item storage (111).

5.          An apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the content set indication comprises no indication of a content source of content items.

6.          An apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the presentation processor (113) is operable to update the parameter indicating an earliest time of availability of each content item in response to a current time.

5   7.          An apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the content set indication further comprises a parameter associated with a latest time of availability of each content item.

8.          An apparatus as claimed in claim 7, further comprising an input processor (115) for receiving a user input associated with the latest time of availability and for
10  modifying a time of availability of the content item in response to said user input.

9.          An apparatus as claimed in claim 8, comprising a recording controller for instigating a recording of a content item in response to modifying the latest time of availability.

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10.         An apparatus as claimed in any one of claims 7 as dependent on claim 4, wherein a stored content item is removed from the content item storage at the time of the latest time of availability for the stored content item.

20  11.         An apparatus as claimed in claim 7, wherein the content items of the content set indication are arranged in response to the latest time of availability.

12.         An apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the content set indication comprises a parameter associated with a cost of at least some of the content items.

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13.         An apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the content set indication comprises a parameter associated with a quality of at least some of the content items.

14.         An apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the content items of the content
30  set indication are arranged in response to the earliest time of availability.

15.         An apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the content items of the content set indication are arranged in response to at least one parameter chosen from the group of:
            a title of the content item;

an artist of a content item; and

a category of the content item

16.          An apparatus as claimed in claim 1, further comprising:

an input processor (115) for receiving a user input and for modifying a time of availability of the content item to a modified time of availability in response to said user input; and

a communication element for communicating the modified time of availability to at least one of the plurality of sources.

17.          An apparatus as claimed in claim 16, further comprising means for modifying a cost of the content item in response to the modified time of availability.

18.          An apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the content set indication comprises an independent indication of whether a content item is currently available.

19.          A method of content selection, comprising the steps of:

receiving (201) content items from a plurality of sources including real-time content sources and content item storage sources;

presenting (209) a content set indication of available content items from said plurality of sources, wherein said content set indication.comprises a parameter indicating an earliest time of availability of each content item; and

selecting a content item from said content set indication of available content.

20.          A method as claimed in claim 19, further comprising the steps of:

receiving a user input;

modifying a time of availability of the content item to a modified time of availability in response to said user input;

communicating the modified time of availability to a first of the plurality of sources;

receiving the content item from the first of the plurality of sources at a time corresponding to the modified time of availability.

21.        A computer program enabling a method to be carried out according to claim 19 or 20.

22.        A record carrier comprising a computer program as claimed in claim 21.